

State of Maine

The minority of the joint select committee to which was referred so much of the Governor's Message as relates to newly acquired Territory having had the same under consideration and dissenting from the report of the majority of said committee, ask leave to submit a counter

Report

That the subject being one purely national in its character, demanding no legislative action on the part of this State, the undersigned, a minority of your committee, cannot regard its agitation here, otherwise than as attended with no beneficial results; as a serious and useless interruption of the ordinary and appropriate business of the Legislature, and as calculated to prolong the session and waste the money of the people in the illegitimate consideration of a question solely and entirely within the province of the national Legislature; whose wisdom and prudence it is confidently believed will be found fully sufficient to its proper and satisfactory determination.

In respect to the policy which ought to be adopted touching any newly acquired Territory; whether the local institutions should be permanently determined

by congress in the act establishing over any such
territory a territorial Government; or whether the
question of prohibiting or permitting the existence
of any particular institution should be submitted to the
decision of the people of such territory, at the time of its
organization, or whether the whole question should
be referred to the decision of the people who may
reside therein at the time when the application for
admission into the Union as a State, may be made;
the undersigned do not undertake to decide; but
relying upon the wisdom, judgment and prudence
of congress, and reposing entire confidence in our
delegation in Congress, that they will fully and
faithfully reflect the views and sentiments of their
several constituencies, the undersigned are of opinion
that the settlement of the whole question may be
safely left in the hands of those to whom it
legitimacy belongs. ^{They} Therefore beg leave to report
that legislation ^{action} upon the subject referred to ~~therein~~
is ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~unexpedient~~

All ~~of~~ which is respectfully submitted

Sam^l Mayall

State of Maine

In Senate, June 13, 1848.

Ordered, That 350 copies of the foregoing Report be printed for the use of the Legislature

Edward G. Pike Secretary

Minority Report
of the joint select
committee, to which
was referred so much of
the Governor's message
as relates to slavery to
newly acquired Territory